

# BARRICADE

REVOLUTIONARY LEFTIST PUBLICATION OF THE BARRICADE COLLECTIVE





# BARRICADA 4, FEBRUARY 2001

## "La Barricada Cierra la Calle, Pero Abre el Camino"

### BARRICADA COLLECTIVE STATEMENT

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Barricada is a non-partisan, non-hierarchical collective within the radical leftist spectrum with the principle aim of producing and distributing revolutionary propaganda and news.

We work to build class-consciousness through the distribution of radical left wing culture and ideas as an alternative to the state and the capitalist system. To this end we distribute pamphlets, flyers, newsletters, and other forms of propaganda, as well as participating in initiatives which are in line with our general ideas and beliefs.

The Barricada collective opposes electoral politics, the party system, and representative democracy, because we see them as cheapening true democracy and serving to take power and initiative away from the hands of people. We are also opposed to reformist alternatives aimed at making superficial changes to what we view as an inherently flawed system.

We are opposed to nationalism and other artificial divisions of the working class. However, we are also anti-imperialists and as such support oppressed peoples in their struggles of national liberation providing that they maintain a revolutionary leftist character. At the same time we bear in mind that this is not our ideal situation, as our wish is not to see the emergence of more states and borders but instead a stateless, classless society based on the principals of mutual aid, direct democracy, freely federated community structures, and workers self-management.

To this end we justify and encourage the pursuit of the class war, including but not limited to, direct action, workplace sabotage, property damage, mass confrontation, and civil disobedience. We believe that the issue of revolutionary violence should be viewed from a tactical standpoint rather than an ideological one. This said, we believe that the creation of a "culture of resistance," where the state and all other enemies of the working class are at no time safe, is an essential aspect of any social movement, serving to empower people as well as creating an atmosphere ideal for class warfare.

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Please feel free to donate all articles, comments, letters\* or other sorts of contributions.

**Note:** We will print all letters provided we do not find them to be particularly offensive for the obvious reasons (sexist, racist, homophobic, etc.) or simply downright not worthy of space.

The Barricada Collective runs a low-traffic, moderated, e-mail list to inform its readers about activities of the collective, initiatives we support, and upcoming mobilizations. If you wish to subscribe please email us at **barricadacollective@hotmail.com** and let us know.





## Decentralization and Democratization of the Solidarity Movement to Close the SOA: A Response to the Barricada Collective's Reporting on the November Protests

Dear Barricada Collective,

Early last summer I was invited by SOA Watch to help plan and train for the November protest at Ft. Benning, Georgia. As a witness to, and participant in, both the planning process and the actual weekend events, I feel it is necessary for me to respond to the Barricada's article on the subject. Although I am sure the article was well-intended (for I had the pleasure of meeting and working with Barricada collective members in Ft. Benning), it is full of inaccuracies and false assumptions, which I hope to clear up for both the Barricada collective and for readers of the publication. I am requesting that the collective publish this response.

First of all the assertion that "SOA Watch has not developed any sort of criticism of the SOA beyond opposition to it on moral and religious ground," is further from the truth now more than ever. One only needs to read the literature SOA Watch has produced this past year to know that they are making critically important steps in linking issues of US military policy to the larger picture of corporate globalization (1). I encourage the reader to get a hold of a copy of SOA Watch's most recent video "Guns and Greed", which is specifically about the SOA's role in enforcing neoliberal economic policies dictated by the IMF and World Bank. For further research, Jack Nelson Pallmeyer's book "School of Assassins" makes the case that the SOA is not a military excess or mistake, but rather it is an integral part of US imperialistic policy. This book has been one of the most used educational tools within the movement to close the SOA since it was published in 1997. So plainly, if SOA Watch's critique of the SOA was ever limited strictly to "moral and religious ground", it certainly hasn't been for quite some time.

Last April I had the opportunity to brief a cluster of SOA Watch affinity groups who took part in the A16

mobilization against the IMF/World Bank. The SOA Watch T-shirts for A16 read, "...the economic rape of the poor, that accompanies globalization couldn't stand without the military apparatus that brutalizes people who rise up to resist..." In the "brief history of the SOA Watch movement" it reads, "We are grateful to our sisters and brothers of Latin America for their inspiration and invitation to accompany them in their struggle for peace and justice." This text runs next to a picture of a Zapatista woman, masked with a gun on her back and a masked child on her side. SOA Watch affinity groups also participated in R2K and are planning for the FTAA protests in Quebec City.

SOA Watch is one of a few groups in the US that is in the position to effectively link US militarism to corporate globalization, and to forge and strengthen alliances between the peace movement and the growing anti-globalization movement. This is fundamentally revolutionary work, and SOA Watch should be commended for the changes it has made, and continues to make, to accommodate these alliances (which I'll expound on shortly).

Until this past year, one of my biggest criticisms of SOA Watch has always been the non-participatory nature of their mass protests. This criticism is certainly applicable to many groups and movements. Generally a small group of people plan a protest and then advertise for bodies to join their already-determined action. Under this common scenario the protester is an attendee rather than a participant; their mind is not needed, only their body; and as a result the action is often disempowering, particularly to young people. Over the past year many of us have witnessed or participated in a drastically different model of organizing for mass ac-

tions; a more engaging, empowering and democratic model. An organizing collective puts out a call and does the groundwork for creating a framework for coordination between autonomous affinity groups. These affinity groups are then responsible for creating and carrying out their portion of the action. This organizing model needs some refining, and will always need to be adaptable to particular situations, but all in all it is a monumental improvement from the traditional non-participatory model.

Many SOA Watchers who took part in A16 were impressed by this model, and they determined to make the struggle to close the SOA more participatory and less stagnant. In my opinion they have made great progress in a relatively short time. Specifically they invited me and a few other young people (whom they knew and associated with anti-globalization protests) to take part in a planning session with their advisory group this past summer in Chicago. Our input was truly sought out and incorporated into the planning. It was decided that in addition to the traditional funeral procession which (every year) crosses the line onto the military base, there would be a second procession of affinity groups which would plan their own coordinated autonomous actions (keeping with the action guidelines). Affinity groups could also carry out actions at other locations around the base. It was also decided that planning and preparation tasks leading up to the November protests would be decentralized into several working groups. It was consensed upon that a spokesperson from each of these working groups, and from the spokescouncil of affinity groups, would be responsible for any on-the-spot emergency decision-making--a role which had previously been limited to the SOA Watch advisory group.





In short the decision-making processes of the SOA Watch movement were radically decentralized and democratized this past year. This is always a great challenge within any group, and I believe SOA Watch has demonstrated impressive skill in leaving no one behind.

The Barricada mistakenly reported that "Once inside, the [affinity groups] decided not to respect the pre-established procession route and crossed the median dividing the 'in' road to the SOA buildings from the 'out' road." Had the Barricada collective participated in the affinity groups' spokescouncil they would have known that crossing the median was precisely the consensed upon plan of the affinity groups. They weren't defying any "pre-established procession route", and in fact their moving to the other road was designed to give the traditional funeral procession some space. The idea behind granting some space was to accommodate those who were accustomed to the solemn tone of the traditional procession, and who may have been uneasy about the addition of a second procession and about the general structural changes within the movement. SOA Watch could have said, "Change is coming, sink or swim!", but as I already stated, I believe SOA Watch has demonstrated impressive skill in leaving no one behind.

The Barricada harshly asserts that "All in all, the entire weekend was a festival of reformism and first world privilege." Yes, we who live in first world nations are unarguably privileged, but the events in Fort Benning this past November were certainly not a celebration of this fact. Rather they were a recognition of the responsibility that comes with this undeserved privilege, and a stand of solidarity with those around the world who are robbed, tortured and killed in order to deliver this privilege to our door. In that crowd of ten thousand people I saw many familiar faces; my

friends from the Catholic Worker movement who live in voluntary poverty and work full time without pay for peace and justice; friends from the Plowshares movement who have done hard time for their cause of nuclear disarmament; friends from high school for whom the issue of the SOA is serving as a sort of gateway into a holistic radical critique.

Yes, many of these folks are pacifists. Many aren't. So what? Protests organized by SOA Watch will probably always be explicitly non-violent (2). This is a political reality, so why divide ourselves debating it? If the action guidelines are too strict to bear, then there are 363 other days of the year in which anyone can visit Ft. Benning using whatever means they like.

It is historically inaccurate that "most of the struggles [suppressed by Latin American militaries] took the form of guerilla warfare...". Most of the 200,000 murdered indigenous people in Guatemala were civilians. The strategy of counterinsurgency warfare is to bust possible resistance BEFORE opposition groups (armed or not) occur. The targets are union-organizers, educators, student-activists, etc. That's what the notorious torture manuals (used at the SOA) are all about--the enemy targets for advocated interrogation techniques such as torture, execution, and blackmail, according to these manuals, were people who: "[pass out] propaganda in the favor of the interests of workers", "[do] union organizing or recruiting", "sympathize with demonstrations or strikes", and "[make] accusations that the government has failed...to meet the basic needs of the people." Counterinsurgency is civilian-targeted warfare. But of course SOA Watch acknowledges that SOA soldiers also fight against armed guerilla groups.

The Barricada points out "Those who died at the hands of US backed military dictatorships were by and large not pacifists. At no time was this ever mentioned." Why does it need to be mentioned? The Barricada way over-exaggerates the magnitude of this eternal means-and-ends debate if it is inferring that those who gathered at Ft. Benning

would not stand in solidarity with SOA victims simply because they weren't pacifists. Is the Barricada unfamiliar with the likes of Dave Dellinger, Phil Berrigan and many other nonviolent revolutionaries who stand in solidarity with all oppressed peoples, and who absolutely refuse to condemn oppressed peoples when they choose armed struggle? I contest that this omission is a "whitewashing of history" and a "hijack[ing of] the legacy of Latin American struggles", because I think it's inappropriate to discuss tactics at all during a mass public rally--especially other peoples' tactics.

While I was talking with the black bloc on the day of the action, I gave a rushed history of SOA Watch and of the changes over the past year. So I take some responsibility for the inaccuracies in the Barricada's reporting. I tried to communicate that the police and media were attempting to incite fear and division by playing the game of "good protester, bad protester", warning of "violent elements from the outside". Barricada's article reads, "several people associated with SOA Watch publicly distanc[ed] themselves from possible 'violent elements from the outside'." I believe that this misinformation stemmed from a simple misunderstanding, but it's important to clear up. The media team actually held lengthy discussions about how to counter this police/media strategy, and I estimate that they were successful.

All in all the weekend was a festival of solidarity. Ten thousand people weathered freezing cold rain, many of whom risked arrest. If I could single-handedly mobilize ten thousand people to do whatever I wanted down at the US Army School of the Americas, sure, it would have probably looked a lot different. But I can't, so I work with whoever comes, and I start where they're at. Good change is a long process that takes a load of patience. I encourage the Barricada to, first of all, get accurate in-





test (yes, the action guidelines are lengthy, but no, there is no dress code!), and I hope to see y'all there again next year, and in-between. I suspect that the actions will become increasingly creative as the SOA Watch movement becomes more familiar with the affinity group model.

Love, rage and struggle,  
Solstice

P.S. SOA Watch didn't run the parking lots and didn't negotiate anything with the MPs.

Footnotes:

(1) "SOA, IMF, World Bank -- Partners in intimidation, torture and murder", "SOA: the Ultimate Union Buster"

(2) Property destruction is not forbidden in the action guidelines, and has actually been utilized on multiple occasions in protests against the SOA.

Solstice,

I have to admit, upon doing some further reading about SOA watch that some of the claims in the article about the November mobilization were, as you said, false, and I apologize for that.

The first mistake was that I associated the opinions and mentality of a lot of the people I met at Fort Benning with the general politics of SOA Watch. It now seems clear however that SOA Watch's politics have evolved and broadened, it is simply that some of the people who they mobilize who have not developed a wider critique of the School of the Americas and what it represents. In short, I made a false generalization and I apologize.

Also true is that the article had a clearly harsh edge to it, which in retrospect may have been unwarranted. However, correctly or not, the truth is that those of us who went to the November mobilizations came back with quite a sour taste in our mouths, and the article, which was written right after returning, is a reflection of that.

However, while the tone may

have been out of place and there were several inaccuracies, which I accept and take responsibility for, there were several claims in your letter with which I have to disagree.

First of all, when we said that once inside, the affinity groups decided not to respect the pre-established procession route and cross the median, we were referring to the pre-established funeral procession route which had been worked out with the military authorities. We were in fact at the spokescouncil meeting and were aware of the fact that it had been decided in advance to not follow the funeral procession route.

Secondly, and this is probably the most important, is your assertion that the protest was not a "festival of first world privilege" but "a recognition of the responsibility that comes with this undeserved privilege, and a stand of solidarity with those around the world who are robbed, tortured and killed in order to deliver this privilege to our door."

We lost track of the times we heard people discussing about how good it felt for \*their\* conscience to have crossed the line, and how they were so proud of \*themselves\*, and how it was so important for \*them\* to have crossed that line. The amount of liberals worrying about themselves and their conscience was astounding, and that is a celebration of first world privilege.

There were also several other notable examples, such as the people chanting solidarity while standing idly and watching demonstrators be arrested several people lamenting those who "bring politics into such a righteous event."

The next point we disagree with is the debate over tactics and what we still view as a whitewashing of history by those who spoke at the gathering. While there is no denying that there have been social fighters in Latin America who

chose other means, the fact remains that the history of Latin American resistance is a history of armed struggle, urban or guerrilla, and popular resistance in the form of mass confrontation in the streets and workplaces.

The fact is that what tactics they chose are important because it defines the form taken by a particular struggle. To deny this is an example of first world privilege because it puts the morality of the first world solidarity movement above that of the Latin Americans who fought, and still fight, in conditions that leave them with no such option.

We firmly believe that there is no peace without justice, and this sentiment did not seem to prevail in the atmosphere of the SOA protests in November. This is comparable to the "peace" rallies organized by the Colombian middle class, who see peace as merely the absence of violence, regardless of the social injustices that may exist around them. To us, it is unacceptable to speak of Colombia and not speak of the thousands of men and women fighting and dying for a better society. Yet there was no mention of this at the SOA protests, could it be because the Colombia guerrilla movement challenges the morality of many of those present?

Regardless, we recognize that our article may have been overly harsh, as I said previously this is most likely due to the fact that it was written right after our return from Georgia. However, we apologize for the harsh tone, we recognize the positive steps taken by SOA Watch and hope to see further co-operation between them and anti-authoritarian groups in the future. After reading the latest issue of the SOA Watch newsletter it has become clear to us that the, while the analysis and tactics may differ, the spirit is essentially the same, and we look forward to seeing you in Washington later this month.

Nicolas for the Barricada Collective





## Letter Regarding DAN, JAM, the RAAB and the Presidential Inauguration

Dear Barricada,

Your Event Summary and Analysis of the Revolutionary Anti-Authoritarian Bloc action at the Presidential In-hoguration (Feb. issue) was detailed and fantastic. It's ironic that so many folks within the anarchist movement were worrying during the months before January 20 that perhaps the black bloc tactic had run its course or should be "retired" for a while, because J20 proved to be one of the most successful black bloc actions yet, not just in its effectiveness against the cops but in the numbers it drew (RAAB may have been the biggest bloc yet in North America) and the radicalizing impact it seems to have had on many of the "mainstream" protesters on the scene that day. Thanks for doing such a great job of getting the facts down and for an excellent job of self-criticism.

I'd like to set the record straight on one matter, however. Your summary notes that "As the

final demonstration of their lack of organization and naivety, based on some rumors that the inauguration would take place indoors, JAM approached organizers of the RAAB ... and attempted to isolate the RAAB in order to ask that the RAAB act as support for direct actions that they would like to carry out." You go on to express concern, quite rightly, that the black bloc must not allow itself to "become simply the shock troops of reformists."

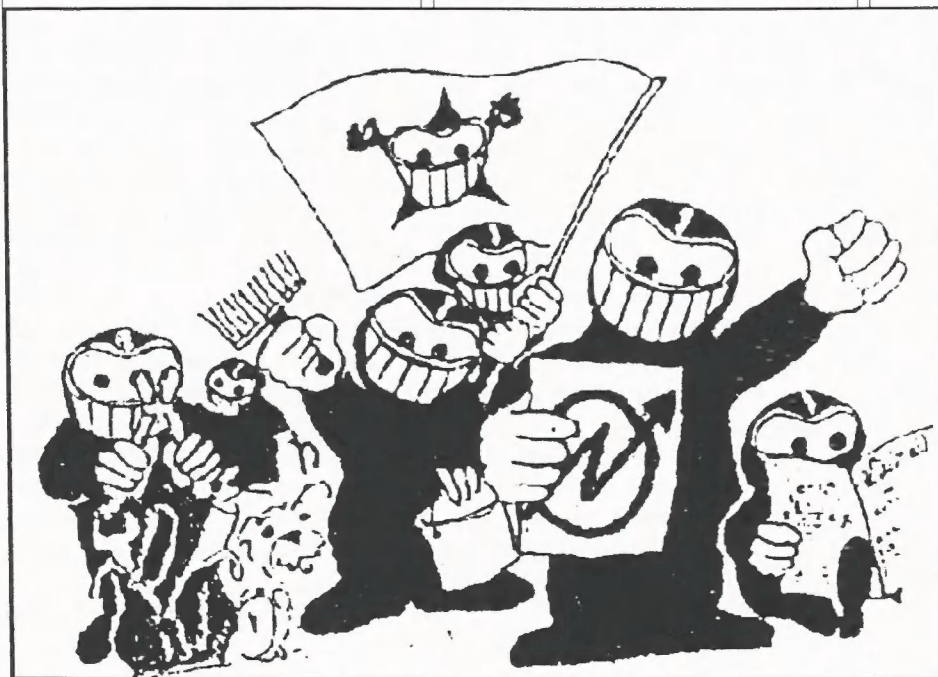
I fully agree that JAM played a horrendous role all through the planning for J20. Indeed, it was only individual members of JAM who showed any spirit of solidarity in helping out the black bloc that day. However, I want to make sure that some solid, sincere offers of support for RAAB, that were extended the night before and that were fully acted upon on J20, are not being mistaken for an attempt by JAM to co-opt the black bloc.

Before I go on, I should mention that I'm an anarchist and

also a member of the New York City Direct Action Network, and that I decided to affiliate with RAAB for J20 along with several other DAN members. I also wrote some leaflet text for RAAB, and I was at the RAAB planning meeting the Friday night before J20. During the meeting, I was in touch by cell phone with some of my NYC-DAN comrades, so I know what they were doing.

Initially, NYC-DAN intended to work as part of JAM, mainly by providing help on legal, medical and communications matters where needed. This was in keeping with the DAN philosophy that out-of-towners should take their lead on actions from their local counterparts. However, at a spokescouncil meeting early Friday evening, NYC-DAN and several other groups including Ya Basta!, Philadelphia Direct Action Group (PDAG) and SUDS (Students for an Undemocratic Society) became so disgusted with JAM's refusal to engage in or support any direct action, and the authoritarian manner in which its "leaders" were conducting themselves, that they withdrew and held a "second spokescouncil" to determine where they could best direct their efforts.

One alternative was to support RAAB; another was to support the civil rights "Shadow Inauguration" organized by Al Sharpton at Stanton Park (and which







was being threatened by the fascist Loud Citizen group). Rather than make any judgment between the two, it was decided that members of the groups in the second spokescouncil would make their own decisions which of the two actions they would assist in. NYC-DAN got in touch with myself and another comrade by cell phone, and we passed this offer on to the RAAB meeting - to support RAAB with medical, legal, and communications. My understanding is that it was accepted.

Next morning, NYC-DAN members - legal observers, medical and communications - were at Franklin Square and accompanied RAAB on its march. They were there at 14th and K when the black bloc was surrounded by cops, some of them were themselves trapped, and they used their coms to pull in other supporters. At the Naval Memorial too they provided medical support and legal observers, and I observed them assuring black bloc members several times that they would stick with them as long as they were needed. Other folks from the "second spokescouncil" also joined to provide support after the Stanton Park event broke up. Their support did not waver, and they made no attempt to "calm down" the black bloc or divert us from our confrontational tactics. At the Friday meeting, I don't remember anyone from JAM getting in touch with us during or afterwards - so I hope that your summary isn't mistaking the offer of support from the sec-

ond spokescouncil for a sleazy move by JAM, or conflating it with some other offer from JAM that I don't know about.

I'm bringing up this seemingly minor matter in part because I don't want NYC-DAN's position on RAAB and black blocs in general to be misunderstood. The Direct Action Network's activism has focused a lot on non-violent civil disobedience, and some DAN groups (in Los Angeles, for instance) have been less than friendly to the black bloc over the past year. However, this is not the case with NYC-DAN, nor with the other groups that were in the second spokescouncil. Instead, on Friday night many DANsters made a conscious judgment that RAAB offered the best opportunity for an effective action on J20, and therefore decided to throw their support to the black bloc - that is, to assist the black bloc, NOT to call on the black bloc FOR assistance.

I think it is significant that this happened, especially in light of what took place the next day, when RAAB destroyed a police check point and effectively led thousands of other activists through it and down to the parade site. Far from being a "tired" tactic, the black bloc is building support for a far more militant approach to confronting authority. This is why groups like NYC-DAN threw their support behind RAAB, and also why so many activists on J20 followed RAAB's lead in the streets. Rather than being isolated by JAM on J20, the black bloc offered a powerful alternative to JAM that pulled other committed

activists out from under the reformist "umbrella" and into solidarity with RAAB.

I hope we can look forward to more of this kind of support in the future, as anarchist thinking and tactics become a more powerful force in the post-Seattle anti-capitalist movement.

In solidarity,  
Eric from

NYC

Eric,

Thank you for your letter. We would just like to put you at ease regarding your concerns of who we were referring to in the analysis of the RAAB.

Of course the support of people from DAN was much appreciated, and their offer for support was welcomed by everybody at the meeting, us included.

The incident we were referring to has to do with somebody who approached us before the meeting and, either because it was true or because they misunderstood the situation, told us that JAM wanted us to help them carry out some direct actions which they were doing as a result of the rumors that the inauguration was to be moved indoors. This obviously made us quite angry given the treatment which we had received from JAM and the fact that direct actions are not something you string together in one night, especially at the presidential inauguration.

We are however aware that people from DAN are fortunately much more responsible and we look forward to more cooperation and mutual aid between DAN and black blocs in the future.

The Barricada Collective





## CLAC OPPOSES FTAA IN NORTH AMERICAN TOUR

Organizing to oppose the Summit of the Americas and the FTAA is now in full swing (for more info see the Quebec 2001 section inside).

The CLAC (Anti-Capitalist Convergence, Quebec City) and CASA (Summit of the Americas Welcoming Committee, Montreal) have been touring the Northeast of the United States in order to further inform people about the dangers of the FTAA and how they can organize against it, either locally or by going to Quebec.

The tour stopped for two days in Boston for four events, including a teach in at Tufts University, a community meeting, and a lecture and discussion at the local radical bookstore, the Lucy Parsons Center, all on the FTAA and issues surrounding it. All of the events were very well attended, ranging from 50 to 100 people at each.

As a follow up to these successful events the Sabate Anarchist Collective (NEFAC) is organizing further talks focused on "Revolutionary Alternatives to Capitalism," including discussions on Peter Kropotkin's anarchist political economy, an anti-capitalist analysis of the FTAA, anarchist alternatives to capitalism and patriarchy, an anarchist look at Marxist economics, etc.

These discussions are tentatively scheduled to take place in Boston late March to early April, so if you are in the area be sure to contact either Barricada or Sabate ( PO Box 230685/Boston, MA 02123, sabate36@juno.com) for more information.

## STATE REPRESSION IN VIENNA AGAINST ANTI-FASCISTS

### Blockades?

In Austria, blockades are allowed just for the "rightist" demonstrations. While protesters against the Czech nuclear power plant in Temelin block the border to the Czech Republic - supported by the rightist government - and practice the national consensus, protesters against the government are not even allowed to block streets in a city. Even before the anti-opera-ball-demonstration the police announced that antifascist blockades would be made impossible.

### Violence

On Thursday Feb. 22nd 2001 the police "enjoyed" an incomparable orgy of violence: protesters were literally overrun, chased through the city of Vienna, and anyone too slow to flee was beaten up. Some protesters reacted towards the massive police violence by throwing bottles, stones and paint-bags, building barricades and then keeping on running.

Besides some far right hooligans from "Rapid-Ultra", several undercover policemen dressed like "typical anarchists" were discovered among the protesters. The police detained at least 42 people. Whilst listing carefully their own wounded (even if they only hurt their finger while beating), the police did

not mention any wounded protesters. The order was to beat up anyone - and the policemen obviously enjoyed it: Surely enough several passer-byes were hit as well. Journalists were wounded. We do not know the exact number of wounded among the protesters and we will not be able to find out, as wounded protesters normally do not denounce the police (this would automatically lead to be formally accused of lying by the police.)

The Kronenzeitung - Austria's biggest (and far-rightist) tabloid - began its propaganda days before the demonstration. The police also, like many times before, spread the rumor of violent German "professional protesters. Furthermore, the mass media constantly talked and wrote about the "traditional opera-ball demonstration" - a tradition which stopped to exist years ago. Last year a antifascist carnival was held, but obviously the media wish to get back to the (more radical) opera-ball demonstrations of the late 80s and early 90s.

### Repression

After the last groups of protesters went home before midnight, the police prepared themselves for the next action: On Friday at five a.m. more

than 300 policemen attacked the autonomous centre "Ernst Kirchweyer Haus EKH". The policemen were heavily armed, wore helmets and bullet-safe jackets. Most of them were members of the anti-terror-group WEGA, known for its sympathy for the far-right freedom party. The doors were broken, the noise made the people living in the house think of a attack by fascists (the police did no show any legitimating document). The people living in the EKH were brutally taken out of their beds and rooms, some of them with guns pointed at them. Some had to lie down on the floor in their underwear. While some policemen kept them under control, others stormed from room to room. A private computer monitor, most doors in the living zone and several pieces of furniture were destroyed.

Some masked undercover policemen - the same that had joined the demonstration as "agent provocateurs" the night before - participated in the search of the house. They were identified on behalf of their clothes. During their action the people living there had to listen to statements like "This is a shit house and will be torn down anyway", "Today there are no human rights", "When the governor of Carinthia





(Haider) comes, this will all change," "after this kind of demonstrations we have to make a strong statement,"....

And this is the point: This attack was clearly an attempt to intimidate. Somebody had to be guilty. But no one was found...

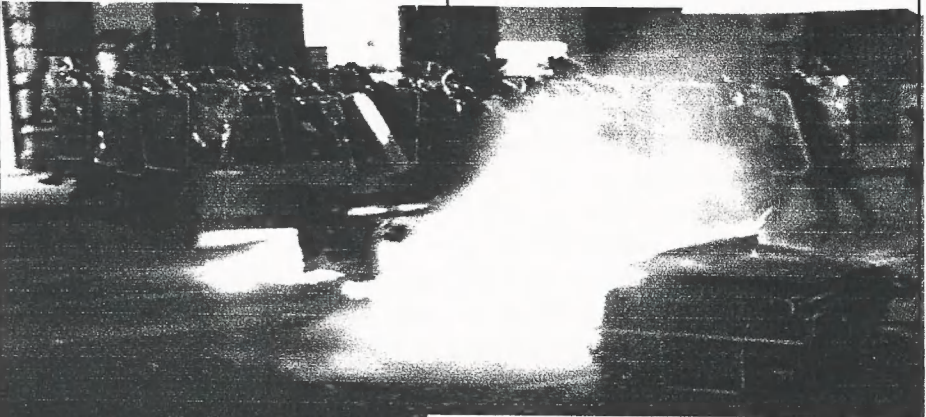
Besides some buckets of paint and pieces of metal out of the common workshop nothing was confiscated. It was merely hassling. Again the police-troops marched against a "public enemy" created mostly by the rightist mass-paper Kronenzeitung (the biggest tabloid in Austria). The co-ordination between the Kronenzeitung and the police was proven by the fact that "casually" a photographer of the Kronenzeitung came by at 5 in the morning and took photos of

the police violently attacking visitors of the pub in the EKH.

Against the criminalization of the

antifascist resistance!

Rosa Antifa Wien (RAW)



Police run by a burning barricade in Vienna

## HUNGARY: NEO-NAZIS PREVENTED FROM MARCHING BY ANTI-FASCISTS

Hungarian neo-Nazis were blocked by anti-fascists from demonstrating on Tuesday at the site of a historic World War Two battle between German and Soviet troops, but vowed to return next year.

"When will Hungary get to the level of democracy where people can freely practice their religion, express their views and stand up for national feelings and it will not be a crime?" said Gyorgy Kemal Ekrem, leader of the unregistered far-right Hungarian National Freedom Party. For the second year running the neo-Nazis were prevented from staging their annual rally after anti-fascist groups block-booked permits to assemble in the castle district, site of a 1945 battle where elite Nazi SS troops were defeated trying to fight their way out of Soviet-encircled Budapest.

Dressed in black and with their heads shaved, the 30-odd neo-Nazis assembled outside the castle district to commemorate the battle and rail against what they saw as infringement of their right to free speech. "Hungarians should not be afraid to talk, to be Hungarian, to come to these kinds of rallies," said Karoly Konnyu, 48, one of the demonstrators. Wearing key chains bearing the Hungarian crest tacked onto a metal cross, the neo-Nazis waved Hungarian flags and listened to martial music.

They were outnumbered by members of the media and curious spectators. The rally ended peacefully after an hour, in contrast to a 1999 rally where 26 neo-Nazis were arrested for fighting and eight police officers were injured.

## POLICE PREPARE TO DISRUPT MAYDAY PROTESTS

The mainstream media has already begun its defamation of anarchist and revolutionary groups in the run up to this year's May Day demonstrations.

An article recently released in the British press, citing Intelligence reports, warns of anarchists and other "extremists" who are "plotting" to paralyze London. The article then goes on to say that "police are monitoring electronic traffic between anarchist groups to thwart their plans, amid fears that ringleaders are intent on causing more trouble than at last year's May Day protests."

The article also "reveals" that "anti-capitalist protestors are urging extremists from abroad" to come to London because of the publicity that demonstrations so close to general elections would draw. This has been used as a pretext to cancel all police leave in the area for May Day.

It is clear that the media and police in London are preparing the public for an eventual repression of anti-capitalist revolutionaries, under the pretext that they are dangerous "extremists," and most outrageously of all, "foreign."

Given this turbulent situation, and the fact that elections in Britain are indeed only two days after May Day, we can only hope that the protests are, as the British would, quite fittingly, say "a smashing success!"





# INTERNATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

## THIRD CONGRESS OF NORTHEASTERN FEDERATION OF ANARCHO-COMMUNISTS AND STATEMENT FROM BARRICADA

Several important motions, including the call for an Anarchist Contingent at the anti-FTAA demonstrations in April and the publication of a largely distributed four page agitational bulletin about the FTAA and anarchism, were passed at the 3rd congress of the NorthEastern Federation of Anarcho-Communists (NEFAC).

Over 35 people were present at the congress held in Quebec City on the weekend of February 10th and 11th, including delegations from Montreal (Le Trouble, Main Noir, and several as of yet nameless groups), Boston (Barricada and Sabate), Baltimore (Roundhouse), Western Massachusetts, and of course Quebec City (Emile-Henry, the hosts, and Le Maquis). Also present was a member of the Lyon section of the Francophone Anarchist Federation (FAF) who extended the congress the greetings of the FAF and also gave a presentation regarding the organizational model of the Lyon region of the FAF which could be of use to NEFAC as it expands.

Among the most important accomplishments of the congress were the transfer of the General Secretariat of the English section from Prole Revolt (Morgantown) to Roundhouse, the discussions around Federation

structure, the adherence of several new groups and individuals to the Federation, and the acceptance of several new Federation initiatives.

These initiatives include an organizational tour to spread the word about NEFAC and aid people in the creation of new collectives, the writing of an international anarchist anti-FTAA statement similar to the ones written around the Pra-

# NEFAC



[www.nefac.org](http://www.nefac.org)

gue and Nice mobilizations, and important organizing for the mobilization against the FTAA summit, including calls for anarchist contingents at the demonstrations of April 20th and 21st.

While the Barricada Collective, being essentially synthesist and not wanting to align itself with any particular tendency, is not a part of NEFAC, we fully support

the initiative of NEFAC. We believe a regional federation is a crucial first step towards providing a higher level of organization for our growing movement, at least this particular tendency of it, and allows for greater tactical and theoretical unity and coherence.

We can only hope that NEFAC will in the future keep up the very positive work it is doing (such as the Northeastern Anarchist magazine of which the first issue is now available for 4\$ from **The Northeastern Anarchist C/o Sabate Anarchist Collective/PO Box 230685/ Boston, MA 02123**) and serve as an inspiration for other such initiatives, be they anarcho-communists or of other tendencies, in other regions.

It is for all these reasons that the Barricada Collective, while clearly not being a purely anarcho-communist group and maintaining its synthesist position, will be applying for NEFAC supporter status at the next congress to be held late August in Boston. This is simply in order to show our goodwill and to help the Federation grow, and we would be ready to extend the same courtesy to any other such initiative that may arise in North America to advance the solidification of our revolutionary movement.

**The Barricada Collective**



# Analysis of Peruvian Political, Social and Economic Condition

Disclaimer: We are running this article as the first part of a series on Peru because we feel it provides a good overview of the situation in Peru. However, there are certain aspects of it which we are uncomfortable with, most notably the sweeping generalizations made against the left and the armed struggle in Peru. While we agree that authoritarian groups, such as Shining Path, may not be precisely in accordance with our ideas, we do not feel it is correct to accuse hundreds of social fighters who now languish in jail for their fight for the people of being "backwards and decadent."

We would once again like to remind our readers that while we are anti-authoritarians, we are also on the side of the people and those who fight, from a revolutionary leftist perspective, for them, and thus lend our critical support to them.

The revolution will not be tailored to fit our beliefs and it is important to be able to work with those who, while we disagree with on some issues, are in the end fighting for the same thing as we are.

The Barricada Collective

(colloquially speaking called "cholo").

'Quechua' speaking natives are in the Northern, Central and Southern parts of the Peruvian highlands (along with the Aymara speaking groups). Various other indigenous nations live in the extensive Amazonian region of the North (the departments of Loreto and San Martin), central Amazon (department of Ucayalli) and South (Madre de Dios).

The minority "white" socio-economic group (Spanish descendents who primarily live in the capital Lima-where two thirds of the population lives) has historically looked down upon their above-mentioned 'fellow' citizens. It is this racism and prejudice that has prevented the formation of a 'unified' country on all levels, be it culturally, economically and/or politically. Needless to

say the weak position of the left has not helped to change this scenario either, but that will be discussed later.

The centralist attitude (70% of all the national resources go to Lima) of this politically and economically privileged minority class, has made Peru one of the poorest nations in South America. This corrupt political class of 'caudillos', whether the previous aristocratic oligarchy of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the military elite, or the 'nuevo rich' comprador bourgeoisie, which has incorporated Peru into the world capitalist system, thinking only for their narrow & short term interests, have made Peru a dumping area for merchandise from imperialist countries, ultimately destroying the local economy in a whole-sale fashion.

The political economy of the last ten years, led by Fujimori's mafia and associates, by imple-

The flag of the MRTA flying over the Japanese embassy in Lima

One hundred and seventy-seven years after gaining her independence from Spain in 1824, socio-culturally speaking, Peru still has not come to grips with a unified national identity politics. This can be considered one of the most important factors for Peru's "underdevelopment," especially in today's "globalized world," where more than two thirds of the 25 million Peruvians have been ignored almost totally by the dominant economic and political forces. These people are usually either Indians (indigenous) or of mixed ancestry





menting all of the yankee imperialist I.M.F. structural adjustment policies- privatizing practically every thing- has only made the situation worse. Currently, 85% of the economy is unreported. That is to say only 15% have 'decent' paying jobs, and poverty has increased from 48% in 1989 to an all-time high of 52%. A simultaneous increase in child labor, unprecedented child prostitution, high malnutrition and a tremendous increase in crime, are just a few of the social ills that come to mind. The mafia regime of Fujimori and Montesinos (CIA agent & head of the Peruvian national intelligence service), ever since the internal coup of 1992, have robbed Peru not only of its formal 'bourgeois democratic institutions' (read: selection of your oppressors and a total sham), but also of billions of dollars of the privatized industry's money that entered the treasury.

Historically unprecedented corruption in all levels of society, from the congress people-even the so called opposition- to the supreme court judges, to the heads of the TV stations, to the owners of the newspaper & magazines, to the owner of the biggest bank- who also has the biggest monopoly in the country- and of course the "proud" armed forces, has caused a political earthquake that will continue to affect Peru for years to come. From the start it was obvious that the real president was the fugitive Montesinos, and that Fujimori (who now peacefully lives in his ancestral land of Japan) was just a puppet, designed for Peruvian and world public relations needs. The most outrageous and disgusting of the post-downfall episodes is the release of the indicted corrupt officials from

prison day after day. It calls to mind Clinton's infamous pardoning of 400 of his best 'white collar' criminal friends just a few days before leaving office. Evidently the bourgeois ruling elites know how to protect their own.

To make the whole situation even worse is the conduct of the leftist forces in the last two decades. Of course, we should put this in a historical context; that is to say, the authoritarian parties (Leninist-Stalinist-Maoist-Trotskyist) have done a lot of damage to the world revolutionary movements, especially in Peru. The last two of these forces were/ are the decadent and backward 'Communist Party of Peru,' best known as the Shining Path or Sendero

Luminoso, who with their Maoist interpretation- which erroneously analyzes Peru as a semi-feudal, semi-colonial society like China of the mid 1920's- initiated an armed struggle in the country side, and has done a lot of harm to the cause of the workers' revolution. The second- and much smaller- force was the Tupac Amaru urban guerrillas, whose famous and courageous occupation of the Japanese embassy in 1997 ended in a tragic massacre of all 14 of the occupying guerrillas, proving that a small group of kind-hearted petite bourgeois romantics (20th Century Robin Hoods) cannot possibly create a revolution in the name of the masses- no matter how they formulate themselves as the so-called

"vanguard" party.

History has proven that only the non-authoritarian associations or organizations whose means and ends are in accordance with the will and power of the workers and the oppressed themselves are able to make any difference. Not all is lost in Peru, however. In the process of overthrowing the mafia regime of Fujimori and Montesinos, a new generation of worker/youth activism and culture has risen. This new 'blood' could rejuvenate the movement of the masses in Peru. The tradition of the writings of Gonzales Prado (the Peruvian anarchist of early 20th century) has to be taken into account when considering the new reality of Peruvian society, in order to make real progress towards the creation of an anarcho-communist movement for the revolution to come.

**Down with the World Capitalist System!!**

**Down With the Peruvian State!!  
Long Live Anarcho-  
Communism!!**

**Payman Piedad  
Barricada Contributor**

**Nestor Sherpa, founder of the MRTA**





# POLITICAL PRISONERS

## FRENCH ANTI-FASCISTS SENTENCED TO LONG PRISON TERMS

Yves Peirat and William Ferrari, otherwise known as the FTPs (Franc Tireur Partisans, Partisan Sharpshooters), were both sentenced by a Marseille court on Thursday, February 22nd to 5 years in prison and an 18 month suspended sentence, respectively, as well as a fine of 750 thousand French francs (approximately 100 thousand dollars US).

They were convicted of a series of arsons and bomb attacks against the extreme-right in the south of France between the years of 1991 and 1998. These attacks, in which nobody was injured, were usually directed against property belonging to the National Front or against sites which were rented out for far-right events.

These actions were carried out in order to combat the rise of the extreme right in the south of France, represented most notably by the assassination of a youth of North African descent and the "conquering" of four southern cities by the National Front. The radicalization of methods used by the FTP was a way to at the same time show the extreme-right that their opposition would not succumb to their intimidations and show that resistance to the extreme right within the framework of the state is ineffective and that alternatives do exist.

Far from being a marginalized group with an "extremist outlook" the FTPs enjoyed a large degree of popular support. This was demonstrated by the large amount of money donated to their defense fund, the many events organized in their benefit, and the hundreds, sometimes thousands, of people



who took to the streets to show their solidarity with the arrested anti-fascists.

The fact that these anti-fascist heroes were condemned one day after the six year anniversary of the murder of a young man of north African descent makes the judgment even more unjust, as those who took action against a party that promotes racism and xenophobia now languish in jail, even though their actions caused not one injury, while those who spread hatred and promote violence against people are allowed to freely spread their hate.

Needless to say, help is desperately needed to raise the money they are being forced to pay. You can make a financial donation to

**Solidarite Resistance Anti-Fasciste**  
**21ter Rue Voltaire**  
**75011 Paris**  
**France**

You can also order a benefit t-shirt for 65 French francs (approximately 10\$), but if you are in the USA or Canada please send a little more to cover international shipping costs. Checks should be payable to "CERDA."

**ANTIFASCISM WILL NEVER BE A CRIME**

**Nicolas**  
**Barricada**



# POLITICAL PRISONERS

## FREE THE SANTA CRUZ 2!

### Jailed Activists Need Your Support!

Federal charges have now been filed against Matt Whyte and Petey Schnell. Both are experienced activists with a history of radical organizing around various issues in their communities. They are facing a maximum of 20 years in prison for allegedly having possessed materials (gas, gallon jugs, and birthday candles) which could be made into "destructive devices." The US Attorney's office is currently requesting that Matt and Petey be held WITHOUT bail.

One has to wonder if people who did not have records as activists would be facing such serious federal charges for simply having a gas can, some empty jugs and birthday candles in their car. A review of the "evidence photos" is particularly interesting as it includes a Tropical Source chocolate bar wrapper, a flyer to an upcoming event exposing the prison industrial complex, a map of Santa Cruz and other such "incriminating" evidence.

In order to fight these outlandish charges and provide adequate support for these two young men we need to raise around \$30,000. Some will come from the families of the two, but we desperately need your assistance as well. Checks can be made out to Santa Cruz 2 Defense Fund and mailed to us at:

**Santa Cruz 2 Defense Fund**  
PO Box 917

Peter Schnell 01007170 DRB047  
Santa Clara County  
885 N San Pedro  
San Jose CA 95110

Matthew Whyte 01007172 DQE336  
Santa Clara County  
885 N San Pedro  
San Jose CA 95110

### RESISTING FASCIST AGGRESSION IS NOT A CRIME

T o m a s z Wilkoszewski is an anti-fascist militant who has been convicted to 15 years in prison for the unintentional killing of a nazi during a street fight.

Anti-fascists in Eastern Europe, and across the world for that matter, are often the targets of fascist aggression. However, when they fight back and defend themselves successfully they are often convicted by the state and sentenced to long prison sentences.

T o m a s z Wilkoszewski 's case is yet

another example of the criminalization of anti-fascism.

All the appeals brought forth by his defense have been rejected, and his only hope now is international pressure.

You can express your discontent creatively on Polish targets, or by writing President Kwasniewski at...

Aleksander Kwasniewski  
Prezydent RP  
Wiejska 10  
00-902 Warszawa  
Poland  
listy@prezydent.pl







## AN ACTIVIST'S GUIDE TO QUEBEC CITY - PART 1



Quebec City has, over the last couple of decades, embarked on a process of "revitalization." This "revitalization" is in fact nothing more than the gentrification of the city. It has involved demolishing sectors of popular neighborhoods to build highways, building massive hotels and other structures aimed at tourism which are also completely out of line with the architecture of the neighborhoods (such as the congress center), the elimination of the last remaining green areas in the city to make way for luxury homes, the destruction of nearly 50 percent of the homes in the St. Jean Baptiste neighborhood between 1966 and 1976, and the gentrification of the centric Place D'Youville, replacing local stores with upper class businesses, and street youths and marginals with tourists.

Yet, all this pales in comparison with what the city of Quebec has in store for those who come to oppose the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), or for it's citizens who happen to be unfortunate enough to live in the area near where the "Summit of the Americas" is to be held. Among other draconian measures planned for April are the banning of all demonstrations on the upper part of the city (where the Summit is to be held), the banning of cell phones for the duration of the Summit (to avoid congestion they tell us), the emptying of the local jail in order to make room for massive arrests, surveillance and harassment of local activist

organizers (which has already begun as several activists were arrested early February for fliering, though they were later released as the police claimed that they had "made a mistake"), the systematic denial of entry into Canada of foreign activists, the preparation of a vast array of "less-than-lethal" weapons, and, finally, the icing on the cake, the mobilization of over 5,000 policemen (including 800 riot police) and the construction of a 3.8 kilometer long "security perimeter" around the summit which only delegates, journalists, and residents with passes will have access to.

All this to defend a meeting of the ruling elites of the Americas, gathered behind closed doors to discuss, essentially, our future. In a nutshell the FTAA is nothing more than a further expansion of NAFTA, bringing with it the same consequences that NAFTA did, but on a larger scale. The proposed deadline for the implementation of the FTAA is in 2005, and it is intended to be fully WTO-compatible, with all that that means for the already grossly deficient laws that protect labor, the environment, etc. All in the name of free trade.

The FTAA is yet another example of the "democracy" in which we live. We are told that we are free to decide our fates when we pick a new face for the puppet of the elite every 4 years, and thus pacified. Yet the real decisions that affect our lives are taken behind closed doors and based on documents which we are not even

allowed to read, drafted by upper-class economists who we did not elect, and who do not represent our interests. It is yet another attack on the people of the Americas and a demonstration of the fact that we live not in a democracy, but in a dictatorship of capital.

Yet, as the last few years have shown, just as capital has sought to establish and affirm itself, so has the growing movement of anti-capitalist resistance. This movement has been active every day and every night through community and workplace organizing and through direct action, coming together on occasion to show it's numbers, flex it's proverbial muscle, and demonstrate to the enemies of the people that as long as they insist on exploiting and oppressing us, there will be no peace. The "Summit of the Americas" in Quebec City, which, through the establishment of the security perimeter, has laid bare the contradictions of the dictatorship of capital in which we live, with police, military, and the economic and political ruling elite on one side, and the people on the other, will be the next such occasion.

Thousands upon thousands of organizations, groups, and individuals are already organizing to converge on Quebec City to oppose the FTAA. However, the success of a mobilization depends to a large extent on how well prepared those who take part are. We by no means presume to know everything there is to know about these things, but we can do our best to spread what we do know. So, if you are one of those thousands planning to head to Quebec City, here is part one of our spe-



cial "guide" to the Quebec City mobilization. Part two, with info on the times and places of the different marches and actions, meeting places, convergence centers, and other such information which is not yet available will follow in Barricada April.

### Quebec City: Getting There

Needless to say, the first evident hurdle for those not from Canada headed to Quebec City will be crossing the Canadian border. Even now, two months before the Summit, activists are being denied entry into Canada (such as several groups headed to the CLAC/CASA consulta in late January or Lorenzo Komboa Ervin), so it is quite safe to assume that getting past the border is likely to be a tricky issue. So here are some evident, and not so evident, tips.

\*There are essentially four ways to get across the border. It is important to pick the one most suited to your personal, or your group's, situation. These four are...

-The "low key" approach: This means going in small groups, preferably by car, and trying to enter discreetly. Remember, college students head north all the time to drink, families go on vacation, people have friends or relatives there, etc. Thus, one could easily pick a role and go with it. If one is going to be a college student it would be a good idea to pick up a bumper sticker of a college and mimic a "college student look." Plus, there is no reason to be going to Quebec City when Canada has so many other destinations of interest. However, keep in mind that giving false information to customs officials is

indeed a crime, which we are of course not encouraging, and you do so at your own risk.

-The "commercial" approach: A probably more effective, but also more expensive, approach to getting into Canada is to go, preferably alone or in a small group, via a commercial bus or airplane line. Entering by air is probably the surest way to get into Canada, but unfortunately economically impossible for many. However, if you can afford it, it is suggested.



[www.quebec2001.net](http://www.quebec2001.net)

-The "Mass" approach: Ya Basta! And other activists will be converging in Burlington, Vermont before attempting to cross the border at Cornwall, New York en masse. They are likely to be backed by several unions who also intend to cross into Canada via Cornwall.

These activists, primarily Ya Basta! and other direct action oriented groups, are looking to use the force of their numbers to pressure the Canadian authorities into allowing everybody to cross the border. By going there you swell the ranks and thus increase the possibility of success (meaning everybody gets through). And, if authorities refuse, then you would be a likely participant in what would probably become the "battle

of the border."

Finally, also keep in mind that if the Cornwall initiative fails, you can simply head over to another border crossing. However, on the down side, the Cornwall crossing is likely to take place close to the 20th, making it not a possibility for those intending to arrive early and also possibly not leaving much time to explore other options of entry in case of failure.

-The "Do So at Your Own Risk" Approach: US citizens entering Canada do not have their passports stamped (as they do not need them to enter) and they are usually not registered anywhere. Thus, once you are inside Canada the authorities have no way of knowing how it is that you entered, and it is also not an issue when re-entering the US.

All this said, people should be aware that the US/Canada border is enormous, and has many unmanned border crossings, wooded areas, and other such discreet ways of entering the country.

This is something that people might want to keep in mind if all else has failed or if they have been previously arrested at large demonstrations and it becomes apparent that the authorities have a "black list" (such as the one they had in Prague).

However, we would again like to remind everybody that crossing the border illegally is indeed a crime and you must be prepared to take the risks that that implies. We are, of course, in no way, shape, or form encouraging people to do such a thing.

\*Regardless of how one chooses



to enter Canada, there are several common sense matters to keep in mind.

**-Arrive Early:** The Canadian authorities are not going to shut down the entire border for a week. The earlier you arrive the better your chances of getting through will be, both because they will be less on alert and because you will have more time to explore other options in case of trouble. Furthermore, the earlier you arrive in Quebec, the better. You can help out as well as familiarize yourself with the city.

**-Think About Where People are Sitting in the Car:** If you are relatively good at looking inconspicuous then they might not even ask for identification from everybody in the car. Therefore, if there is somebody with an arrest record or any other reason to fear that the border authorities would not let them pass, have them in the back, possibly asleep. Of course, people with records should definitely try to avoid being behind the wheel.

**-VISAS:** This is extremely important. If you are not a US citizen call the nearest Canadian embassy or consulate, or check the web, to see whether or not you need a visa. If you do, then get on it right now! Prepare yourself well for that, know where you are going, when, how, etc.

**-Take Nothing:** If there are propaganda materials, banners, signs, or anything else even remotely related to activism that you absolutely must have in Quebec City, mail them to a contact in Canada beforehand. By no means should you have any of this on you. It is very probable, although not certain, that you will be

searched, and if they find any such thing you will most certainly be denied entry into Canada.

**-Do not look like a demonstrator:** We know that demonstrators come in all sorts of different shapes, sizes, colors, and fashion styles. Authorities however tend to look for certain things that fit their stereotypes of a demonstrator, such as dreadlocks, patches, strange haircuts, and what not. Your politics will in no way, shape, or form be affected by your looking like a "normal" person for a few days, so do so!

**-Wash and tidy up your car:** Authorities also tend to think that activists are lawbreaking malcontents who drive dirty cars, whereas "normal" people drive clean and tidy cars and are good, law-abiding, citizens. So, it is suggested to try to look like the latter.

**-Familiarize yourself beforehand with the border area:** In case you run into trouble getting through the border and would like to look for alternate routes, it is probably not very discreet to start asking around border towns for directions. In order to avoid this. Get a map, study it, and know where you are going.

This may all seem mundane and self-evident, but it is the little things like this that can make the difference between entering Canada and being stuck at the border.

#### **At the Border**

**\*Have your Story Straight:** Know where it is that you are supposedly going, have a story, have contacts, real or otherwise, and be ready for

the questions of the border authorities.

**\*Know your "Rights":** At a border crossing the sad fact is that you have few rights. You might have them in theory, but the reality of it tends to be quite different. There are many things that the border patrol can do to you which you cannot impede. These include, but are not limited to, searching you and your vehicle, refusing you entry into the country, detaining you for as long as they please, dismantling your car, and asking you any question they want. You can refuse to answer, however, if you do, chances are you won't be allowed to enter the country.

Therefore, remember that the principal objective is to reach Quebec, not to be turned back for arguing with border authorities, so be intelligent about it.

**\*Be Quiet:** Only give them the information they ask you for, don't volunteer it. Respond, courteously and calmly, to what they ask you, but don't speak more than necessary.

**\*Have Money:** Even if you don't plan to spend use them, if you can get your hands on money, or credit cards, or bank cards, have them with you. The border authorities love to hear that you have a lot of money and that you are going to Canada to spend it.

#### **Once in Quebec City**

For housing and other such concerns contact CLAC at [clac@tao.ca](mailto:clac@tao.ca), however,



here are some things to keep in mind.

**\*Dress Appropriately:** Quebec in late April can be relatively warm, but chances are it won't be. Of all the things to be worrying about during the actions and demonstrations, the temperature is one worry to avoid, so be sure to check the weather forecasts in advance and dress appropriately.

**\*Beware of the Water:** The police have been quite secretive as to what "less-than-lethal" weapons they will employ against the demonstrators. However, rumor has it that they will use water-cannons, not to disperse people, but simply because given the cold, a wet demonstrator can be put out of action quite quickly. Therefore, it is important to have water-proof clothes or a poncho.

**\*Layer your Clothing:** Try to wear several layers, of black and other colors, for two main reasons. The first is the usual scenario of having to "de-bloc." The second is that it has also been hinted that police will use paint to tag demonstrators for later arrest. It is therefore important to be able to shed clothes.

**\*Know the City:** As soon as you arrive familiarize yourself with the area. Go beforehand to the designated meeting places (discreetly!), get yourself a map, study the fence area, know where you are in relation to the cliffs, etc. Quebec City can be complicated, with its cliffs, small streets, and other peculiarities. However, if we are well prepared this will be an advantage for us, not them.

**\*Know Your Rights:** There is no excuse for getting oneself in trouble due to not knowing what you can and can't do when faced with police. The CLAC website has a lot of useful legal advice, so read it! "I can't access the internet," is not an excuse. There is always a pub-

lic library with net access around somewhere.

**\*Know What you Need and Where to Get It:** There are a lot of things that people may need for the actions and demos which shouldn't be taken to the border and will have to be obtained in Quebec. Try to find out in advance where in Quebec City you can get what you need in order to spare yourself the hassle and avoid last minute inconveniences.

Part two of Quebec, Spring 2001: Information on times and locations of demonstrations and actions, a map of Quebec City, Housing information, spokescouncils, convergence areas, and more. Coming in the Next issue of BARRICADA.

**Severino  
Barricada Collective**





We received the following text anonymously via email. The organizers, who claim to be anti-authoritarians from throughout North America who have come together for this particular mobilization, made it clear that they have chosen to remain anonymous due to the fact that organizers of past mobilizations in North America have been singled out and targeted by state authorities.

We at Barricada while hesitant put too much weight behind anonymous calls, fully understand this concern and lend our full support to the organizers of this mobilization. It is for this reason that we are printing this call and providing space in our publication in order to ensure the success of this initiative.

-Barricada Collective

## **REVOLUTIONARY ANTI-CAPITALIST OFFENSIVE, SPRING 2001**

On the weekend of April 20th to 22nd the ruling elites of the Americas will gather in Quebec City to discuss the implementation of the FTAA (Free Trade Area of the Americas) and, to a large extent, the future of us all. The FTAA represents essentially an expansion of NAFTA to include the entire Americas region. The objective? To further clear the way for laws allowing corporations to sue member nations when they feel a government measure impedes "free trade," to further attack the already fragile social safety systems we have, to pave the way for possible privatization of schools, hospitals, and all other social services, and to further consolidate the dictatorship of capital in the Americas.

It is the lives of everyone in the Americas they will be playing with at the summit in Quebec City, the lives of every American (Northern, Southern, or Central) worker, peasant, unemployed, retiree or student. Yet, for some reason, the "democratic" leaders that govern us have neglected to invite us to this summit, or even to show us the texts they will be discussing for that matter. They have even gone as far as to build an enormous fence around a large part of Quebec City to keep us out. All this has prompted many reformist organizations to protest, and they will be in Quebec City to demand a "place at the table."

Yet we, anti-statists, anti-authoritarians, anti-capitalists, and revolutionaries, will be converging on Quebec City for a different reason. We are not interested in a place at the table of capitalism, or in providing a more humane and friendly face for what we know to be an inherently flawed system. We have a different vision, one of a society based on mutual aid and solidarity, where people are not robbed of the fruits of their labor, and where decisions that affect everybody are made by everybody, rather than by a select few. And, just as importantly, a society where people know who their enemies are, and are ready to stand up to them. We are interested in nothing less than the destruction of the "table of capitalism."

The summit of the Americas is an attack on all of us and must be treated as such. We must show the ruling elites of the Americas that we are ready to resist their attacks and fight back. We must show them that we are ungovernable and that no amount of police can keep them safe from the anger of those they oppress.

Friday April 20th is the day of action called by the Anti-Capitalist Convergence and the Summit of the Americas Welcoming Committee. Actions on this day will be divided into three "blocs." A green bloc with no, or minimal, risk of arrest, a yellow bloc, for people planning to do civil disobedience, and a red bloc, for the "disturbance oriented" crowd.

We are thus calling on all militant revolutionaries to converge on Quebec City on April 20th in the Red bloc to show the ruling elites that no fence is strong enough to withstand the force of the people when class anger erupts. It's time for the Revolutionary Anti-Capitalist Offensive!!

### **IT DIDN'T START IN SEATTLE, IT WON'T END IN QUEBEC**

More Information (Contact, Meeting Times and Places, etc.) will be provided as it becomes available.

*Autonomous Organizing Collective of Anti-Authoritarians from the Midwest, Northeast, Montreal, and Quebec*

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